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**Fax Transmission** | June 24, 2003

TO: Commissioner for Patents  
Attn: Allen J. Heinz  
Patent Examining Corps  
Facsimile Center  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Brendan J. Hanley

OUR REF: 9780.00  
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If you do NOT receive all of the pages, please telephone us at 952-402-7683, or fax us at 952-402-8187.

Documents Transmitted: Reply and Amendments Under 37 C.F.R. 1.111 and Replacement Figure 2  
Applicant: Boutaghou et al  
Serial No.:09/897,779  
Filed: June 29, 2001  
Group Art Unit: 2653  
Our Ref. No.: 9780.00

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0372. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

By: Brendan Hanley  
Name: Brendan J. Hanley  
Reg. No.: 52,429

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Jacqueline M. Stadt

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Signature

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PATENT APPLICATION  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111  
EXAMINING GROUP 2600

7/A  
(N.E.)  
MDJ  
8.13.03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re App:	Boutaghou et al.	Date:	June 24, 2003
S.N.:	09/897,779	Docket No.:	STL 9780.00
Filed:	June 29, 2001	Examiner:	Allen Heinz
For:	BI-LEVEL CAVITY FOR A SLIDER AIR-BEARING SURFACE	Art Unit:	2653

REPLY AND AMENDMENTS UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits the following response to the Office Action dated March 24, 2003. For the reasons detailed below, the pending claims are believed to be in a condition for allowance.

**Amendments**

Please cancel claims 1-20; and add new claims 21-41.

- 21. (New) A slider comprising:
  - a first rail;
  - a second rail;
  - a cavity positioned between the first and second rail, the cavity having proximal and distal end, the cavity further comprising:
    - a first surface extending between the proximate end of the cavity; and